

Vermont's second largest insurance program, Paul helped Vermont obtain the distinction of having one of the lowest uninsured rates in the country. Under Paul's leadership, Vermont broadened its eligibility standards and was one of the first States in the country to expand Medicaid services to children under the Dr. Dynasaur program. During his tenure, Medicaid programs grew to cover 143,313 Vermonters.

Paul began his career in Vermont as a social worker at the Brandon Training School. He quickly rose to leadership positions as a direct provider and then consultant in the field of mental health, followed by his position as the chief social worker for the Vermont State Hospital. It came as no surprise to those of us who know Paul that he was selected in the mid-1980s to lead the State of Vermont's efforts in creating universal access to health care as the executive director of the Vermont Health Policy Council and through his work for the Vermont Health Care Authority. Also during the mid-1980s he spearheaded the creation of the Vermont Ethics Network, an organization dedicated to increasing the understanding of ethical issues, values, and choices in health and health care.

Over the course of 40 years, Paul has been involved with virtually every health policy initiative in Vermont, particularly the State's efforts to expand health coverage. He is personally responsible for authoring Vermont's 1115 waiver, which over the years, and with many amendments, has provided more expansive and flexible Medicaid services to Vermonters. In his quiet unassuming way, Paul is an integral part of the health care delivery system in Vermont and has gained recognition for being a national health policy leader and mentor. He has always brought a steadfast commitment and institutional knowledge to solving the problem at hand while maintaining a vision for improving Vermont's health care system.

Paul's unwavering commitment toward improving the health status of every Vermont citizen is a great lesson for all public servants. Vermont is truly indebted to him. His deep commitment to the citizens of the Green Mountain State has endeared him to us. He has our best wishes for the future.●

ALBERT W. BILLINGTON

● Mr. CHAFEE. Mr. President, I am pleased today to draw the Senate's attention to a public servant who has given meritorious service to Rhode Island and to the Nation.

Since 1981, Albert W. Billington has been a Special Agent with the Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS). In December, Mr. Billington will retire from the NCIS. He leaves a record of achievement, and his service will be missed.

Al Billington graduated from Northeastern University in 1977 with a bach-

elor's degree in Criminal Justice. Beginning his career as a Special Agent, his first assignment was the San Francisco office where he investigated general criminal matters. Just 2 years later, he began a one-year assignment as the Special Agent Afloat aboard the *USS Enterprise* (CVN 65). During the tour, he led several high-profile investigations while the ship and battle group were deployed in the Western Pacific, and for this he received the NCISRA San Francisco Special Agent of the Year Award for Distinguished Service.

Later, Mr. Billington graduated from the Department of Defense Polygraph Institute in Anniston, AL, and was reassigned as a Special Agent Polygraph Examiner to the NIS Northeast Region Polygraph Site in New London, CT. He rose through the ranks first as the Site Manager and later as the Special Agent in Charge of The Polygraph Office.

As Division Head at NISHQ, he conducted oversight of all polygraph matters for the Department of the Navy.

In 1994, Al Billington was appointed Assistant Special Agent in Charge of the Northeast Field Office in Newport, RI, handling all criminal and fraud investigations.

In 1997, he was promoted and reassigned as the Special Agent in Charge of the NCIS Middle East Field Office in Bahrain. He served with distinction during this time of heightened alert and terrorist activity and was awarded the Navy Superior Civilian Service Award by VADM C.W. Moore, Commander Fifth Fleet, USN.

Two years later, he was transferred to NCIS Headquarters and served as the Deputy Assistant Director for Investigative Support.

In 2001, Mr. Billington assumed his present position as the Special Agent in Charge of the NCIS Washington, DC, Field Office.

Upon his retirement, Mr. Billington will be returning to his home in Portsmouth, RI, spending time with his wife, Bonnie, and son, Matthew.

I join with Al Billington's colleagues in expressing thanks for his dedication and valuable service to our Nation, and in wishing him success in all his future endeavors.●

70TH BIRTHDAY OF SAM MAYNES

● Mr. CAMPBELL. Mr. President, I rise today to congratulate Sam Maynes of Durango, CO, on his 70th birthday, although it would be more appropriate to congratulate those with the good fortune to have had Sam for an advocate or friend over the years. I have been lucky enough to count him as both.

While others have lived as many years, very few have achieved a legacy as significant and lasting as his will prove to be. The Southern Ute Tribe, Ute Mountain Ute Tribe, and all of southwestern Colorado will be enjoying the fruits of Sam's hard work long after the struggles and acrimony he en-

dured these past decades have been forgotten. Those who time and again pronounced Animas-La Plata a lost cause obviously didn't know the stuff Sam was made of. I knew—and I knew that so long as there was any chance at all, he would keep fighting. Sam has a warrior's heart, and it was an honor to do battle alongside him.

There are generations of Coloradans not yet born, who may never know the name of Sam Maynes, but who will live better lives because of his tenacity. So congratulations to them, Sam, and happy birthday to you.●

TRIBUTE TO VERMONT ASSOCIATES FOR TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT, INC.

● Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, today I would like to pay tribute to Vermont Associates for Training and Development as it celebrates 20 years of service in meeting the employment needs of Vermonters, age 55 and older, who are ready, willing, and able to work.

I also acknowledge the organization's founding executive director, Pat Elmer, for her vision, leadership, and management skills as she has guided the organization during the past two decades. The agency has developed a number of programs related to career counseling, job search, and computer training in order to prepare individuals for the work place. In addition, they provide on-the-job training stipends to allow people the opportunity to build their resumes through real-life work experiences.

Too often employers may overlook this valuable, and often untapped, resource, which older workers have to offer the workplace. I commend Vermont Associates for leading the way in changing the mindset of many companies by creating new opportunities for employees and employers alike.

As a member of the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, HELP, which has jurisdiction over the Older Americans Act, I commend Vermont Associates for their wise and prudent use of funding from this act. Vermont Associates, and their colleagues across the country, were very helpful to me as I chaired the HELP Committee during the long-awaited reauthorization of this legislation.

I have a strong admiration for Pat's dedication and the many others, including board members and volunteers, who have built Vermont Associates. Vermont is grateful to Vermont Associates for their steadfast commitment to equal access to employment. Collectively, they have greatly improved the quality of life in our small State. For that, Vermont owes a great deal of gratitude.●

TRIBUTE TO JOHN R. (JACK) CHAILLET

● Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding